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22 January 1956

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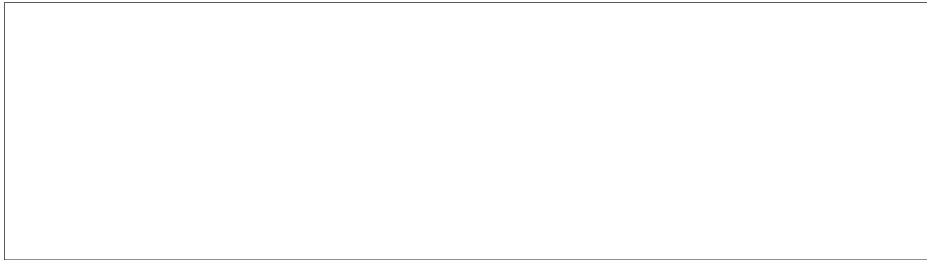
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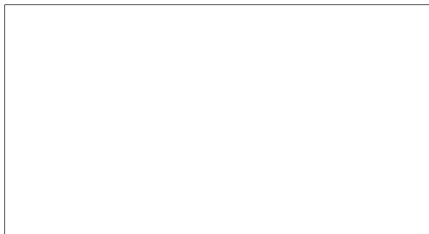
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1. INDONESIAN NATIONAL PARTY MAY ACCEPT COALITION WITH COMMUNISTS



The Indonesian National Party executive committee has voted 23 to 18 in favor of a coalition with the Communist Party (PKI), the Nahdlatul Ulama (NU), and the Islamic League (PSII), according to Prime Minister Harahap who is a member of the Masjumi. This reported decision would make Communist participation in the next cabinet a definite possibility. The Nationalists have in the past thought only in terms of Communist support in parliament.

Harahap told an American embassy official it was not clear whether the NU and the PSII, both of which are Moslem parties, would participate in such a coalition. He said these two parties are "real unknowns" in the present situation and their final stand would be based to a large extent on the desires of President Sukarno.

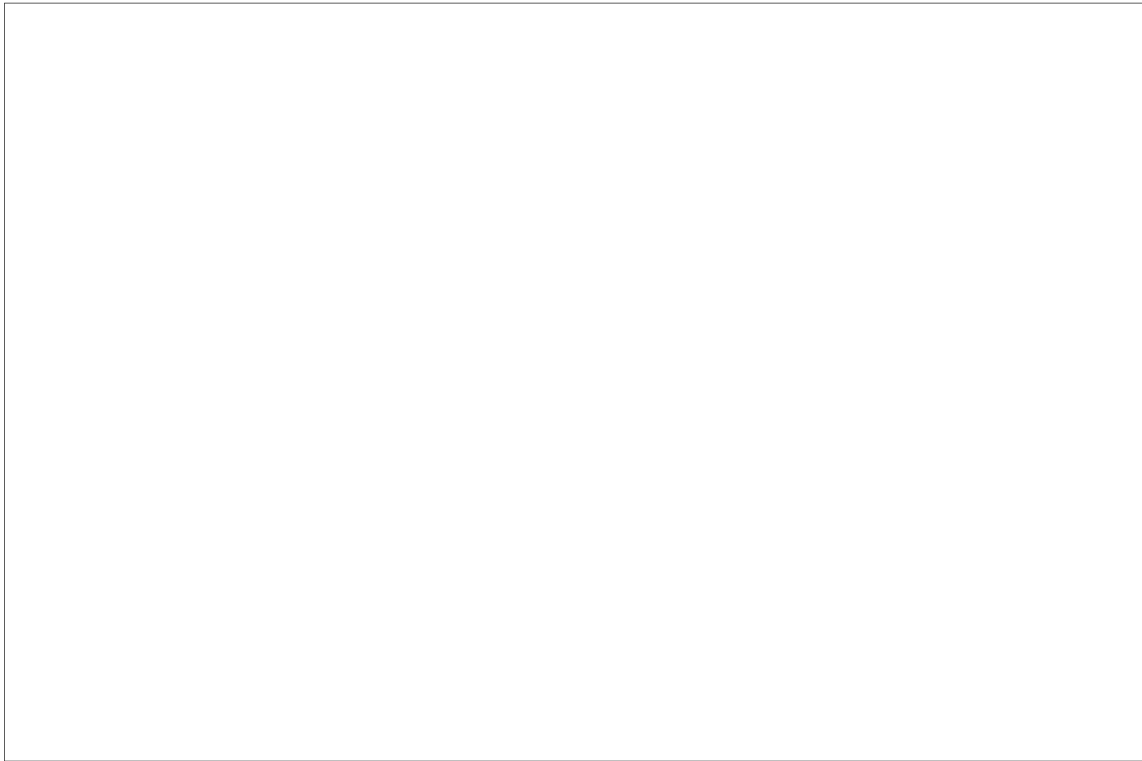
The position of the NU, which has stoutly opposed Communist participation in the government, may be affected by Sukarno's public statement of 15 January endorsing co-operation among nationalist, Marxist, and Moslem elements.

The Harahap cabinet's chances of survival have considerably decreased as a result of the withdrawal of the NU and the small PSII from the coalition government on 19 January. Another minor party is considering withdrawal, which would reduce the government's majority in parliament to the point at which the usual abstentions in any vote of confidence would probably give victory to the opposition.

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2. BRAZILIAN OFFICERS REPORTED PLANNING LAST MINUTE EFFORT TO STOP KUBITSCHKEK INAUGURATION



Comment

It is possible that these officers may make a desperate attempt, but the military forces backing the present government are believed capable of ensuring Kubitschek's inauguration as scheduled.

The government has extended the state of siege to 24 February.

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~~TOP SECRET~~ [REDACTED]**THE ARAB-ISRAELI SITUATION**

[REDACTED] 22 January)

Two patrol skirmishes between Egyptian and Israeli forces are reported to have occurred near the El-Auja zone on 22 January. (Press)

Israeli press reaction to the UN Security Council condemnation of Israel for its attack on Syria has emphasized that the decision was dictated by the big powers' relations with the Arabs rather than by consideration of the merits of Syria's complaint. [REDACTED] Tel Aviv expects further editorial concentration on the problem of Israel's "isolation" and what it should do if it does not receive additional arms from the West. [REDACTED] [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] the Saudi military mission has purchased nearly \$3,500,000 worth of equipment. [REDACTED] approval of the deal was subject to a favorable report from the mission and its Egyptian advisers on the types and serviceability of the purchases. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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